

SOME GOOD STORIES.

BISHOP THOROLD'S LITTLE JOKE.
The late Bishop Thorold's little joke was proverbial. At the time that the Bishop put forward his New Church Scheme, another scheme was broached by one of the leading clergy in the diocese. The Bishop wrote: "Your scheme is excellent, but don't publish it now, or you will ruin it." The other clergyman wrote: "I have no objection to your scheme, but I don't want to ruin yours." By all means. Go to Jericho—Yours, A. W. R.

THE BISHOP AND THE MINOR VICE.
Set the late Bishop of Winchester, though fond of his little joke, was equally careful of his digestion. A rather good story is told of a dinner at Farnham Castle at Christmas-tide. A waiter, handing his lordship a dish of mince pie, was quietly asked by the prelate what they were. "Mince pie, my lord," was the astonished reply. "Oh! do you know that I would not eat one of those for five pounds?" "Be good, my lord," said the waiter, "I do not object to them, but I do not want to ruin your digestion." The bishop, who was a little bit of a humorist, took away, whereupon, in that quiet dignified tone peculiar to him, Mr. Thorold remarked: "Waiter! I do not mind pie, but I do not want to ruin my digestion." A few days afterwards his lordship related the little incident, adding with evident enjoyment, that when he told the waiter that he would not eat a mince pie for five pounds, he looked as if he would have eaten the lot for five shillings!

SIR HERCULES AND SIR WILLIAM.
Sir William Robinson, brother of Sir Hercules, who has just resigned the Governorship of Western Australia, was private secretary to Sir Hercules when the latter was Governor of Hongkong. According to a Colonial story, reprinted by *South Africa*, strained relations existed between the brothers for a long time, owing to the fact that Sir Hercules, when the latter was Governor of Hongkong, was the junior partner in a firm, and Sir William was the senior partner. "What! My brother Bill made a governor!" I never thought he would be anything but a dicker," Sir William is an accomplished musician and composer.

ONE FOR THE AMATEUR SPORTSMAN.
From the same authority we take a shooting story showing the little consideration which the Scotch keeper entertains for the amateur sportsman. A novice from the South was out on a moor in the West Highlands the other day, and, having unaccountably fired twice at a covey of birds that rose less than twenty yards ahead, he exclaimed excitedly: "Twenty yards, that's none of them fall. I'm positive none of them must have been struck." "Dinna doo," returned the keeper, with a sarcastic grin, "that were struck by a scotchman's shot at a distance of twenty yards."

THE UNDERMAN'S TWO ANTHROIDS.
We see in a Tasmanian paper that an under-digger in a country town not a hundred miles from Launceston announces that he has supplied a long-felt want in the district by putting a house of the latest design, and is now prepared to take orders on a form to suit those desirous of a house. This, as our contemporary remarks, is not at all bad in the way of grim humor, but it is hardly equal to that of the gentleman who advertised: "Why live and be miserable, when you can be comfortably buried for three guineas?"

THE 'OLD MAN OF HOY' IN THE MARKET.
The Orkney Island of Hoy, which comprises about four thousand acres, is for sale. Hoy rises abruptly from the sea, and consists mainly of a mountain having different eminences or peaks. Towards its north-western extremity may be observed the famous 'Old Man of Hoy,' a large pillar of rock, about 200 feet in height. It was of this rock that the late Sir Robert Hamilton used to tell a story. Once at a dinner in the West End he overheard an Englishman make a visitor say to him: "I had seen the 'Old Man of Hoy' (Oh, yes), was the reply, 'a very cheerful old man he was.'"

A FEW INCHES OF PLAIN ENGLISH.
Northday men on doing all sorts of wonders by means of electricity, both in mechanics and in chemistry. I see by the papers that they expect to be able to produce rain at will. Perhaps they may; but I don't think they will wait till they do before we over their heads. Up to the time, anyway, anything that is both valuable and useful in the way of hard work. Every day, however, we get out of rocky minds. And, within reasonable limits, it is good for us to have to work. Tomlinson's honest earned is better for a man than twine in the shape of a legacy.

The last couple of things for any country would be wise: for wages could not be paid straight along, without loss or deduction for any reason. But in the present aspect of human affairs this is impossible. Whose fault is it we cannot now discuss.

One source of loss, however, is plain enough, and some remedy ought to be found. In England and Wales every working man mortgages his days of illness for years, making the total loss of wages from his illness about £16,000,000 a year. We are talking of the average, and not the maximum, as all working-men are not ill every year, this average does not fairly show the suffering and energy losses to the nation. In any given year many men are ill, but at all times others may be laid off from ten days to six months each. No charity, no savings, no income from clubs, &c., can make up for this even in money value, as it is nothing of the pain and the misery.

Attending to an experience of this in 1888 Mr. George Leggon says: "I had to give up my work." How this came to pass he tells in a letter dated from his home in the West End of London, written near Dunmore, August 18, 1892. He had no inherited disease or weakness, as far as he knew, and was always strong and full up to April of that year—1888. Then his strength and energy began to leave him. He felt tired, not as from work, but as from power going out of him through some bodily failure. He set down to himself, but not with his old eagerness and zeal. There was a nasty copper-like taste in his mouth, his teeth and tongue were covered with slime, and his throat clogged with a kind of thick phlegm, difficult to "hark up" and reject.

He also speaks of a nagging pain in the stomach, satiating, and much aggravation of the heart as having been among his symptoms. As

the ailment—whatever it was—progressed he began to have a hacking cough which, he says, seemed as if it must shake him to pieces. He could scarcely sleep on account of it. One of the most striking features of his illness, however, were the frequent attacks of the nervous system which must soon, unless arrested, lead to total prostration. In fact he was obliged to give up his work altogether. "To him—as to any one active man—this was like being tied alive."

"It was now July—summer time, when life to the healthy is so pleasant and full of hope. At this time my sister-in-law got from Mr. Leggon (Stirling) a medicine that I had not tried yet. After having used one bottle I felt better, and when I had used the second I was cured, and have not lost an hour's work since." The reader will notice that between the date of his taking the medicine and the date of his feeling better there is an interval of four years. We may, therefore, infer that his cure was real and permanent. The medicine, by the way, was Mother Seign's Curative Syrup. It is not likely that he will get his name or what it did for him. His disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, the deadly enemy of every labouring man or woman on the world. A doctor would tell you that it is necessary to draw a "moral" school-look style—from these facts? No, it is not. We have talked plain English, and that is enough.

A WOMAN who has never seen her husband is married. "I would not be in your shoes for anything," she (sweetly) says. "You couldn't get into them, my dear."

OWNERS to increase of Business. W. Robinson and Co. have removed their Piano and Organ showrooms to Connaught House—large stock—low prices.

BOUNCING LAWYER: "Then you are prepared to swear that the parties came to high words?" "Ooster Winces." "Nay, I didn't say that. I should say they were particularly low words."

Intimations.

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